

Oil or City? Which for Torrance?



NINTH YEAR TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST 10, 1923 NO. 32

OIL DRILLING IN RESIDENCE DISTRICT IS ISSUE

Boost and Oppose Ordinance to Halt Derricks
FUTURE AT STAKE
People Must Choose A Big Town or Small Field

Shall Torrance be an oil field or a city?
Shall derricks or homes flank the streets of the community?
Shall drilling for oil be permitted within the restricted district after the declaration of the Dominguez Land corporation ceases to operate on January 1, 1925?
At meetings, official and unofficial, formal and informal, in homes, offices and on the streets, these questions have been argued warmly during the past week.
Starts at Forum
The questions came to an issue Monday night when George Proctor, city trustee, asked for opinions on the subject so that the city trustees might be aided in taking action on the request of the Chamber of Commerce directors for a specific ordinance prohibiting oil derricks in the restricted area.
The discussion which opened at the Forum meeting has been carried into every home and office in the city. It brought out an overflow crowd at the trustees' meeting Tuesday night.
While there is a division of opinion on the subject, no definite estimate is possible.

TRUSTEES LAY PLANS FOR 3 BOND ISSUES

May Vote on Paving Lighting and the Water System

TORRANCE (Special)—TRUSTEES may vote on three big bond issues this fall—one for the paving of Western avenue, one for the installation of street lights, and one for the purchase of the Torrance Light and Water company.
The first two propositions are almost certain to be voted upon. The third, for the purchase of the water system, depends on the price for which the system may be bought.
City trustees Tuesday night received estimates from City Engineer Jessup on the paving and lighting propositions.
The paving will cost \$60,000, according to the figures of the engineer.
The installation of the lights would cost \$75,000, according to the estimate.

Wait for Data
The trustees delayed passage of a resolution which would call for a special election on these two propositions until more data could be secured on the water company's purchase price. A committee of the Chamber of Commerce is now working on this subject, and probably will report before the next meeting of the trustees.

The city engineer's estimates for the paving of Western avenue are for the 20-foot paving on Western from El Prado street to the northern limits, and for grading along the whole way. It will be remembered that the property owners, in case such a bond issue were approved, would pay for 6 feet of paving on Western, thus making the pavement 26 feet wide.
In estimating the cost of the lighting system, Mr. Jessup figured on lights throughout the entire residence and business district 150 feet apart and with all wires underground.

DOMINGUEZ MAY SUE TO STOP DRILLING ON BORDER AVENUE

Possibility of legal controversy over the proposed drilling for oil on lots 9, 10 and 11, block 38, Torrance tract, on Border avenue, opposite the Torrance Window Glass factory, loomed large this week.
The lots are included in the industrial district as set forth by the city zoning ordinance. But the zoning ordinance does not conform to the declaration of the Dominguez Land corporation.
Acting on the authority of the zoning law, however, City Engineer Jessup issued a building permit for the erection of an oil derrick on the lots to M. H. Murray, a contractor, with offices at 311 Grose building, Los Angeles.
By the terms of the lease under which the drilling rights are reserved, the company must be at

CITY OPENS FIGHT ON POOR WATER SERVICE

Rush Work on 8 New Derricks

North, East, South

Sections See New Bustle Of Action

Three Derricks Going Up Near Torrance No. 6; Keck Busy in Far East Area; Petroleum Midway Erects 4, Scattered

STANDARD CEMENTS DEEP WELL

Try for Shutoff in Felker No. 1 at 4358 Feet; Indication in Shell Redondo No. 1 is Reported Good at Low Level

All sections of the rapidly expanding Torrance field witnessed spirited erection of derricks during the past week, when crews went to work on eight new rigs. Chanslor-Canfield started work on three, Petroleum Midway on four, and W. M. Keck on one.
In the northeast section, where the Chanslor-Canfield's No. 6 is producing 500 barrels of high gravity crude, the same company is on location for a new well, situated between Torrance No. 6 and Torrance No. 12, which was spudded in last week. The new well, which will be Torrance No. 17, will offset a new well which has been staked out across the street by the Petroleum Midway company on the Scott lease.

Will Drill Two
The Petroleum Midway is preparing to drill two wells in this area so recently established as rich producing oil lands.

On Carson street the Midway Petroleum has erected a derrick on the Cravens community lease, forcing the Chanslor-Canfield to offset on the opposite side of the road with Del Amo No. 8.

The Deep Shell Well
In the far western section of the field the Petroleum Midway company this week put up another derrick for Gish No. 2, located near the Redondo limits and just a quarter of a mile south of the Shell company's Redondo No. 1, the deep test well. Reports of this well this week were encouraging to those who believe in the productivity of a deep sand in the Torrance field. The Shell company drilled to 4825. Cores were taken every foot at the lower levels. Those around 4792 feet responded excellently to other tests.
Late this week the crew was idle, waiting for orders before cementing off or coming back up to 3700 feet and bringing the well in from there.

Close observers believe that the Shell merely put the well down in order to satisfy itself, and that there is no intention of tapping whatever deeper sand the test may have revealed.

Cement Off at 4358
Standard last Friday cemented off on Felker Community No. 1 at 4358-foot level. The well was drilled below 5000 feet. After standing cemented for another week the crew will set 4 1/2-inch oil string. What cores revealed at the low levels has not been made public. From now on this well will be watched with intense interest, because of the fact that it will be cemented off 1000 feet below the average for the field.

Locate Torrance No. 18
Activity continues unabated along the old Redondo road. In addition to the derricks up and locations staked out which were announced last week, Chanslor-Canfield this week located Torrance No. 18 in this district. This brings the Chanslor-Canfield derricks in this section of the field up to a total of six, five of which are new. Fifteen new derricks now stand in this rapidly developing section.

Torrance No. 3 is drilling ahead carefully. This well, across the road from the Midway Northern producer, the star of the field, was cemented off at 3200 feet. While an O.K. was received on the water shutoff, the company was advised to core all the way down below the cement.

Keck Has New One
The Superior Oil company (W. M. Keck) is erecting a derrick in the far eastern section of the field. It is southeast of Standard's Dominguez No. 1, which is now down 1,100 feet, and just east of the Sentinel Oil company derrick along the old Redondo road.
Chanslor-Canfield has three other wells nearing the production point. Del Amo No. 7 was given a "go ahead" on the water shutoff this week. It was cemented at 3840 feet.

A test for shutoff on Torrance No. 9 will be made Friday. Cement was set at 3100 feet.

Tests on the shutoff in Torrance No. 7 were being made late this week.

Hub's Smith No. 2 on Carson street is drilling ahead, having received an O.K. on water shutoff late last week.

Shield No. 1, on Carson street at Cedar, showed excellent indications Wednesday. The drill at 3293 feet was 11 feet in a well-saturated oil sand with heavy showings of gas.

Stores Will Close Friday Afternoon to Honor Harding

In compliance with the proclamation of Gov. Richardson, declaring Friday a legal holiday in the state, local merchants will close their stores at different hours during the day, in honor of Warren G. Harding, late president of the United States.

Seven Hundred Hail Julian

TAKE SERVICE EL PRADO ST. REFINERY MAN GETS ROYAL WELCOME TO CITY

Trustees Instruct Mr. Briney to Start Action

Torrance trustees Tuesday night threw the gauntlet at the Torrance Water and Light company when they unanimously passed a resolution instructing City Attorney P. G. Briney to enter protest before the railway commission against the water rates and inadequate service existing in the city.
This action followed the report of City Engineer Jessup, whose written communication declared that the water company officials declare improvements in service impossible at the present time, owing to the financial condition of the company.
Residents of the Amapola street district, who have been suffering from inadequate water service for months, were present and lauded the determination of the trustees to carry the matter before the commission.

NEW OFFICERS OF DOMINGUEZ ARE ELECTED

John S. Cravens, prominent banker of Southern California, is the new president of the Dominguez Land corporation. Following the resignation of M. R. Osburn last week the board of directors of the corporation elected Brian K. Welch vice president and general manager. Other officers in the reorganization were elected as follows: W. D. Longyear, vice president; Waller Taylor, vice president; Torrance C. Welch, secretary and treasurer; Donald Findley, assistant general manager; W. H. McCord, assistant secretary; Charles A. Curtis, assistant secretary; and Miss E. C. Dicey, assistant treasurer.

Raise Salary Of C. of C. Secretary

Commending the work of Harry L. Gadeky as secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, directors of that organization Tuesday afternoon voted an increase of \$50 a month in his salary. Mr. Gadeky will now receive \$300 a month. Several of the directors stated that Mr. Gadeky has been more than paying the amount of the increase on new memberships he secures for the chamber.

King Gives Rummer A Severe Sentence

Charged with bootlegging, M. Marshall of the Red Lantern cafe appeared before Judge King Tuesday morning and pleaded guilty. He was fined \$250, with the alternative of 90 days in jail. He went to jail until friends can raise the \$250.

States. Some stores will close all afternoon. Others will close from noon to 3 p. m., and still others from 3 p. m. on.

The funeral of the former president will be held in Marion, O., Friday afternoon.

The Torrance Herald, out of respect to the memory of Mr. Harding, will close its office all Friday afternoon.
Memorial services in honor of Mr. Harding will be held at 1 o'clock Friday at the Evangelical church. Rev. Morris, J. U. Hemml and Rev. Green of the Baptist church will speak. There will be an appropriate musical program. The general public is invited to pay the tribute of Torrance to the departed chief executive of the nation.

EL PRADO ST. LAND SOLD FOR HOME BUILDING

Korman & Korman Buy 22 Lots Here

M. B. Korman, former jeweler of Los Angeles and for the last two years a resident of Los Angeles, this week purchased from the Torrance Investment company 22 lots on El Prado street facing the park, and announced the most attractive building program that Torrance has ever known.

Mr. Korman asserted that buildings on some of the lots will be started in September.

"It is my intention," he said, "to construct homes that will be a credit to this wonderful little city. I believe heartily in the future of Torrance. That is why I have already invested \$60,000 in property here and why we are planning to invest more."

"The outstanding need in Torrance is for more homes. It is to satisfy that need that we, from the standpoint of good business, are planning to build a number of homes here."

Mr. Korman declared that he will erect an office at Craven and El Prado in the near future and that he will offer financial assistance for persons who desire to build homes. Complete plans and specifications will be furnished by Korman & Korman. Houses will be built according to the desires of individuals as well.

FUGATE-MORAN

A very pretty wedding was solemnized at high noon Monday, Aug. 6, in Christ Episcopal church, Redondo, when in the presence of relatives and intimate friends Mrs. Onetta Wanda Fugate of Redondo was united to Thomas Joseph Moran of Torrance, Father Smith officiating.

The bride was beautifully attired in ivory silk, and with her bridesmaid, Miss Bertha Hansen of Los Angeles, formed a wonderfully attractive picture.

The groom was attended by James W. Jones of Torrance.

The young couple left this week for a brief honeymoon at Big Bear lake, and on their return will reside at Carson street and Cota avenue.

Mr. Moran is field representative of the Union Tool company.

Gourdier Announces Improved Service On Outgoing Mail

Postmaster Alfred Gourdier this week announced an important improvement in service for mail going from Torrance to Los Angeles. A late mail train will leave here on the P. E. direct to Los Angeles via Gardena at 5:29 p. m. Mail deposited at the postoffice before 5:09 will go out on this train. This train, according to Mr. Gourdier, will assist local industries and business houses in clearing late mail.

E. L. Moruy Hurt When Autos Crash

Swerving to the right to avoid a big machine that was "hogging" the middle of the street, E. L. Moruy, 3011 Acacia street, driving a Star sedan, crashed into the Ford touring car of W. R. Lemmans, parked in front of the latter's residence at 2305 Arlington avenue. The collision occurred late Monday evening and in his report to the police department Mr. Moruy states there was no rear light on the Ford. Both cars were badly damaged. Mr. Moruy suffered a badly cut and bruised knee.

REFINERY MAN GETS ROYAL WELCOME TO CITY

Outlines His Five-Fold Plans For Great Project

SHOOTS HOT LINE "C. C." Makes Rattling Good Speech to Forum

Seven hundred persons packed Legion hall Monday night and vigorously welcomed C. C. Julian to Torrance. A regular meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Open Forum, the gathering was the largest and most enthusiastic ever held in this city.
The crowd came to see the man whose name is a household word in the entire coast country. And the defiant young producer of crude oil and promoter of a gigantic industry didn't disappoint anybody. Before the meeting Torrance judged Julian as an astute advertisement writer, a courageous promoter, and a "straight shooter." They came away knowing him also as a vehement speaker and a first class reciter of poetry.

Recites Poetry, Too
"C. C." gave it to the crowd with both barrels—outlining his refinery plans from the well to the filling station, and he dressed the speech off with a bit of verse that gave them all a kick.

Introduced by Charles L. Doyris, a business associate, Julian was characterized as a man who had made some enemies.

"But," said Mr. Doyris, "if somebody doesn't damn you, you aren't worth a damn."

Julian's Address
"I've had a warm spot in my heart for Torrance for a long time," said Julian, "but it's been a long range. Believe me, I'm going to shorten the range. I want to be so well acquainted here that I can drive through the city at midnight and not have a dog bark at me. And I'm going to drive through often at midnight, too."

"The friendliness of Torrance in welcoming me here will stay in my heart" a long, long time.

Not a Sales Talk
"I'm not here to make a sales talk on my refinery proposition, but I'm going to give you a brief outline of my plans."

"There are five points of profit-making in the plans we are going to carry through—not that we're going to try to carry through, but that we are going to carry through."

Mr. Julian then set forth the proposed activities of the Julian Petroleum Company.

Business Men Here Welcome La Plante Local Photographer

Welcoming La Plante's studio to the city, business men here attended a reception held in the new Cabrillo street institution and presented George La Plante with a beautiful bouquet.
Mr. La Plante comes to Torrance after 22 years in the picture industry. He maintained a successful studio in Chicago for ten years, and for the past ten years operated a moving picture theatre at Uplands, Calif.
Mr. La Plante offers an expert and talented service in the portrait, kodak finishing and picture framing business. In addition, he has a stock of office furniture and stationery.

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